

Candidate Demands City Tax Assessor

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IN TRAINING—One of plays to be presented in one-act competition is directed by Linda Kraegel, student author.

Here she shows Pat King and Jan Planz how she wants the scene played. Contest will be judged by a special panel.



VICTOR E. BENSTEAD

Benstead Seeks Council Seat for Third Time

Victor E. Benstead Jr. opened his campaign for election to his third term this week.

A resident of Torrance since 1921 and of the South Bay since he was a young child, Benstead long has been identified with civic activities.

He was a member of the city's first Civil Service board for six years prior to his election to the City Council, and spent most of that term as chairman.

Since his election to the council, he has served for six years as chairman of the police and fire commission.

"If elected, I am willing to serve my city for an additional four years, in serving to represent all of our people—the homeowners, industry, and the businessman with impartiality."

"I believe that the experience I have had on the city council for the past eight years has further qualified me for this office and if elected, I will continue to give all my efforts toward present and future best interests of Torrance."

FLEETWOOD ASKS CITY ASSESSOR

A city tax appraiser was demanded by Thirvin D. Fleetwood, City Council candidate, who told The Press he will make this a major plank of his campaign platform.

"Something is radically wrong with the present system," Fleetwood declared. "In some instances appraisals have gone up 100% on homes while certain industries have lower rates than last year."

He said Torrance has grown in size and stature to the point where it requires a city assessor.

The city employs the county appraiser's office now.

Rosemary De Camp to Head Judges of High School Plays

Heading a panel for critique of the "Original One-Act Play Festival" to be presented tomorrow at 8 in the Torrance High School auditorium will be Rosemary De Camp, TV and motion-picture star. Assisting her will be her husband, Judge J. A. Shidler, who has proven to be a most valuable critic adding humor to his comments.

New participants on the panel are members of theatre arts departments of Los Angeles area colleges. They include Rudy Plaskoff of Harbor College, Howard Banks of El Camino, Dr. David Sievers of Long Beach State College, and Dr. George Savage of UCLA.

The panel will evaluate and discuss merits of the plays and acting at the critique in the cafeteria following the plays. The public may attend.

This is the ninth year Miss De Camp has sponsored this festival, which emphasizes creative writing of one-act plays. It is believed that this is the only event of its kind in the United States where high-school students write, cast, and direct their plays. Reservations are not necessary. Tickets will be available at the door. Advance tickets sales are now being conducted by members of the casts and by other drama students.

GAS CHAMBER DEMO TOPIC FOR TONIGHT

Abolition of the death penalty in California will be a special topic for discussion by Torrance Democrats at their meeting tonight.

All registered Democrats may attend the gathering at 8:30 in the home of the Robert Kerbers, 820 Teri St.

The group expects a large turnout to discuss this most controversial of subjects in the state today. Junette West, secretary, FR 6-3647, has full data on the agenda.

Woman, Two Children Hurt in Crash Here

Lauralyn Myers of 1535 W. 213th St. was in serious condition at Harbor Hospital yesterday after her car collided with another at Crenshaw and 234th St. Sunday.

She was northbound on Crenshaw when she crashed with a car driven by John E. Jones, 76, of 1605 Hickory Ave.

Mrs. Myers was extricated from the car by rescue crews. She was treated for a concussion, cuts, and bruises. Marion and Bobby Myers, 10 and 9, were cut and bruised.

Hampton Players' Production of Van Druten Comedy Opens

John Van Druten's sophisticated comedy, "Old Acquaintance," opened last weekend playing to a capacity house at the Hampton Theater, 100 Wall St., Redondo.

The production, which will run Friday and Saturday nights for five weeks, features Pat Rogers

as Katherine Markham and Edna Purdus of Mildred Watson Drake, novelists going through emotional upheavals.

Dolores Fontana is Deirdre Drake, and Wayne Ward plays Rudd Kendall to provide the young-love interest. The cast is completed by Mac Purdus, Lynn Letzler, and Birgit Faulkner.

Reservations are being handled by Catalina Music Co. and by Lucille Gillespie, FR 5-1870.

Leader Reports on Shoemaker Pool Campaign

A report on money collected in last year's drive for a therapy pool at the Harlan Shoemaker School, San Pedro, was received yesterday by Sam Levy, chairman for the drive in this area. It was reported by Charles Soderstrom, Ford dealer and over-all chairman, that the fund comprises \$37,867.57 in cash, AID pledges of \$1763.43, others of \$746, and pledges of materials and service in the amount of \$13,200.

The Los Angeles Building and Construction Trades Council has given a tentative promise to provide labor for the project, which will be the only therapy pool for crippled children in this area.

State, county, and city approval of the plans are expected soon, and, if no major changes are required, construction will start this spring, Soderstrom said.

Columbia School Hit by Band of Vandals

Columbia School was invaded by vandals last weekend in an orgy of destruction that included killing two parakeets, popping corn, and scrambling eggs.

A fish bowl was filled with gravel, and a girl's coat taken.



OLD ACQUAINTANCE—Pat Rogers and Wayne Ward as Katherine Markham and Rudd Kendall in John van Druten's

Place Figueredo on April Ballot, Court Tells City

300 to Attend Harbor Area Chest Banquet

More than 300 Harbor area leaders are expected to attend the annual Community Chest awards and installation banquet at 7:30 Thursday, March 24, at the Plush Horse, Jim Becker, banquet chairman, announced.

"This annual event, which recognizes generous donors and volunteer leaders, is becoming traditional," he said.

"Employee groups that pledged at least one-quarter of one percent of annual payroll to the Harbor area Chest campaign will receive a bronze plaque, and firms that give their fair share will be presented awards for generous corporate contribution."

In addition, all Chest volunteer leaders—section, division, residential chairmen—who obtained 100% of quota will be honored for their part in the 1959 Red Feather appeal that raised \$109,765 in the Harbor area.

Cecil Feldman, general manager of the Los Angeles Area Welfare Federation will discuss "The Year Ahead."

Ed Mills, 1959 Los Angeles area Chest chairman, will install Harbor board officers, elected at last month's board meeting.

These are Glenn Koger, vice-president and general manager, Rome Cable Corp., re-elected board chairman and Harbor Area representative to the Los Angeles area board of directors; Jim Becker, Torrance manager, Southern California Gas Co., first vice-chairman; and John Sonnenborn, San Pedro District Commercial Manager, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co., second vice-chairman.

Harbor board members to be installed are John Chadwick, Chadwick Real Estate, Wilmington; Fred Mill, controller, National Supply Co., Torrance; Joseph Morillo, PTA Council Chairman for Gardena Community Chest appeal last fall; and John Traub, manager, Bank of America, Lomita.

Reservations are being made at the Harbor service center, TE 3-5227.



ARBOREAL—Claudia DeVries, 5030 Carmelyn, contemplates tree planted in La Romeria Park. She is Brownie, Troop 341.

Brownies and Scouts Give Trees to La Romeria Park

Brownie and Intermediate Scouts presented a program Sunday afternoon in La Romeria Park to plant trees donated by their troops.

Eve Bisou was master of ceremonies.

Trees also were given by the Carl Steele School Mothersingers and Mr. and Mrs. William Deuel. Picnic tables were donated by the Southwest Park Civic Association.

Troops that gave trees, and their leaders, are: Fern Beresford and Erma Peterson, 1277; Dorothy Hood, Ruth Scheele, 207; Caroline Searcy, Lucy Pierce, 1811; Joanne Peterson, Doreen Nelson, 327; Betty Murray, Bobbie Westling, 1670; June Bonowich, Nell Hawkins, Lavona Eaton, 2080;

Joan Hughes, Joyce Reese, 341; June Anderson, 2005; Lorraine Newton, Pat Landes, 1572; Wilmouth Borgeson, Helen Holterup, Joy Mason, 1361; Beth Ferris, 2127; and Dorothy Chadwick, 2276.

School Adviser Group to Hear Talks on Reading

How Torrance youngsters learn to read will be the topic of the Torrance Education Advisory Committee meeting Monday at noon at the Masonic Hall, 2326 Cabrillo Ave.

Information on the reading program will be given by Principals Donald Mullaney, Wood School; and Joe Brandon, Fern Greenwood; and Margaret Denmarsh, curriculum consultant.

Assistant Superintendent S. E. Waldrup will present a construction report, and a quartet from Flavian School—Betty Hickman, Lois Stepp, William Clary, and Bob Sabus—will sing.

Carreiro's Name Also to Be Restored

Boris Woolley Wins Case; Judge Declares Nominators are Valid

Two candidates for City Council in the April election are back on the ballot as a result of a court order obtained Monday by Boris S. Woolley, Torrance attorney.

Superior Court Judge Eugene P. Fay of Inglewood ordered the city clerk to put David Figueredo's name on the ballot after finding that one of the candidate's nominators was in fact a registered voter.

The nominator had been eliminated by the city clerk on the ground he had moved recently.

Fay found that the election code is quite liberal in its description of a registered voter and that it clearly indicates that in cases of doubt the petitioner be favored.

The court did not decide the nominator's qualification to vote in the coming election, but did declare that the fact he had moved did not abolish his standing.

City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier said the ruling also would apply to Henry J. Carreiro, another candidate wiped from the ballot on the same ground.

Carreiro already had put a write-in campaign into operation, but now will stand high on the list alphabetically.

Carreiro has as his main campaign premise a sweeping reorganization of the city school system.

Bob Dower, assistant city attorney, represented Torrance in the court action.

Invitations Out for March 30 Chamber Banquet

Invitations were mailed last week for the annual banquet of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, according to banquet chairman Jim Becker. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30, at the Statler-Hilton, Los Angeles.

Becker said no local facilities can accommodate the gathering. In the past, the banquet has been held in the late civic auditorium.

Becker said the attendance should reach 700 as the past few years has seen successive sell-outs of close to 500.

James Mussatti, general manager of the California State Chamber of Commerce, will be the speaker.

Reservations are available now at the chamber office, 1511 Cravens Ave.

Bub Thomas Gets Plaque for City Betterment Work

Bub Thomas, Torrance tavern owner has received a plaque for his efforts in community betterment.

Thomas was honored along with three student speakers who participated in the annual contest sponsored by the North Torrance club.

Winning speakers were, Rickl Baumgarten, first place. She is a senior at North High.

Karen Jackson was second and Sandra Raye third. Both are sophomores at the same school.